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UNCLAS HELSINKI 000586

SIPDIS

STATE FOR DRL/IL, IO/T AND EUR/NB

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ELAB](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [FI](#) [ILO](#)

SUBJECT: FINLAND: UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT CUBAN CANDIDACY FOR  
THE ILO GOVERNING BODY

REF: SECSTATE 94801

1. (U) Laboff delivered reftel demarche to officials at Finland's Foreign Affairs and Labor Ministries. Tarja Repponen, Director for International Development Programs in the MFA's Global Affairs Unit, said that no official decision had been made about what position Finland would take as regards Cuba's bid to join the ILO's Governing Body. She said that consultations among the "European Group" were still taking place. However, she opined that it seemed very unlikely Finland would support Cuba's candidacy in any way. The Director for International Relations at the Labor Ministry, Sirkka Potila, agreed with Repponen that Finland would be unlikely to support Cuba.  
MACK